FIRST COMICS 1982 1987
FIFTH ANNIVERSARY
MAY 1988
7
$1.75 $2.45 CANADA

EVANGELINE™

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JS/JB

WHO ARE THESE GUYS, ANYWAY?

It is the 22nd century, and many things have changed... humans have colonized the stars and made great advances in science and technology. And many things remain the same... they still persecute each other for their beliefs. Enter **Evangeline**: executioner and saviour. A woman with a dark past and one unswerving allegiance.

She is an expert at hand-to-hand combat, demolitions and electronics, and is proficient with a wide variety of weapons — but she has a special affinity for the old-fashioned bow and arrow. Often introduced as a countess, only a few friends know what she truly is. Among them are **Cardinal Szn**, the Vatican head of intelligence who recruited her and assigns her missions; **Brian Hager** who helped train and sometimes accompanies her; and **Jonny Six**, a thief who sees Evangeline as more than a consummate professional.

What is Evangeline? She is an avenger and protector of those persecuted for their beliefs, or persecuted in the name of the new religion — science.

Who is Evangeline? She's a nun — a very *dangerous* nun.

LAST ISSUE: When clergy and friends of the Church mysteriously began to go mad or die, Szn ordered Evangeline to investigate the only lead — the orbiting health spa **Wonderstar**. Now aboard, Evangeline realizes that she too, is being watched...

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EVANGELINE™ Vol. 2, No. 7, May 1988. Published by FIRST COMICS, INC., OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 435 N. LaSalle, Chicago IL 60610. Published bi-monthly.

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Price: $1.75 in the U.S. Subscription rates for twelve issues: $21.00 in the U.S., $23.00 in Canada and $40.00 foreign rate. All payments must be in U.S. funds.

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POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to **Evangeline**, c/o First Comics, Inc., 435 N. LaSalle, Chicago, IL 60610.

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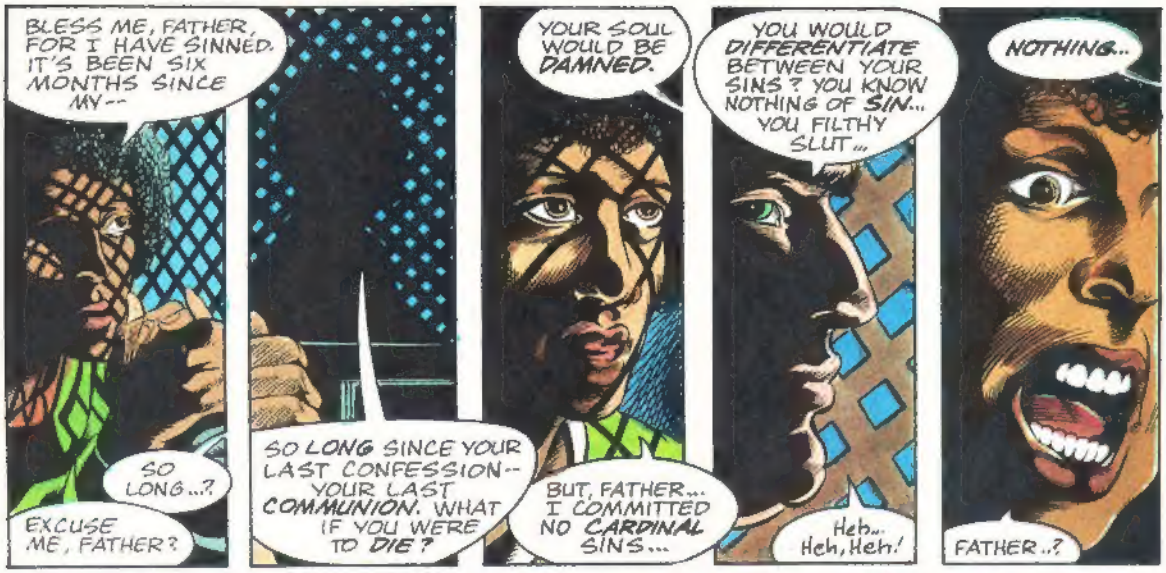
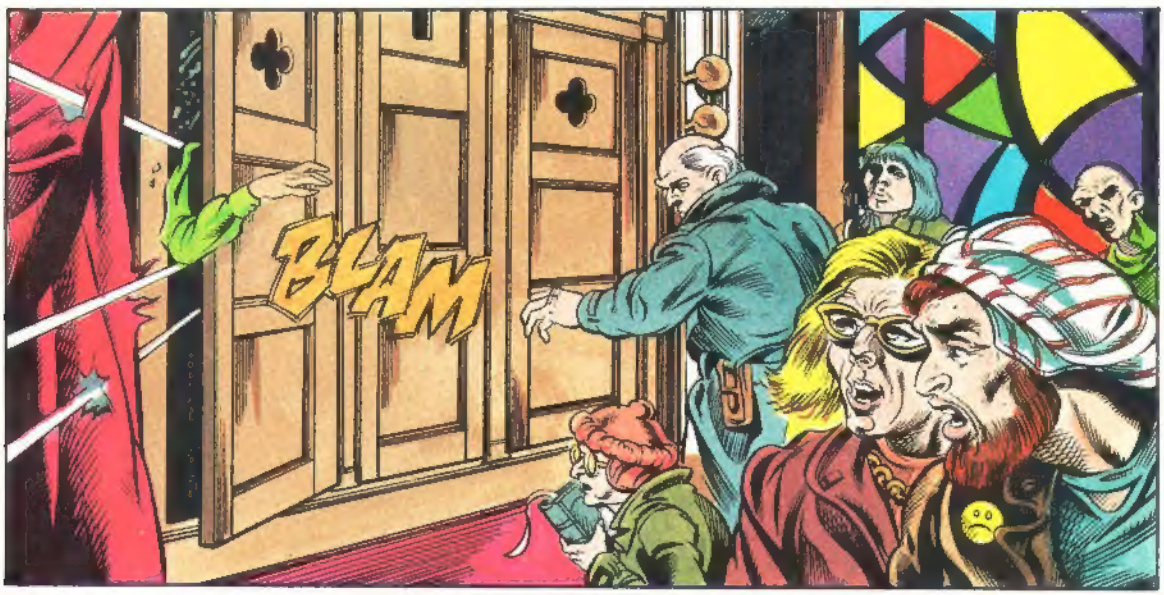
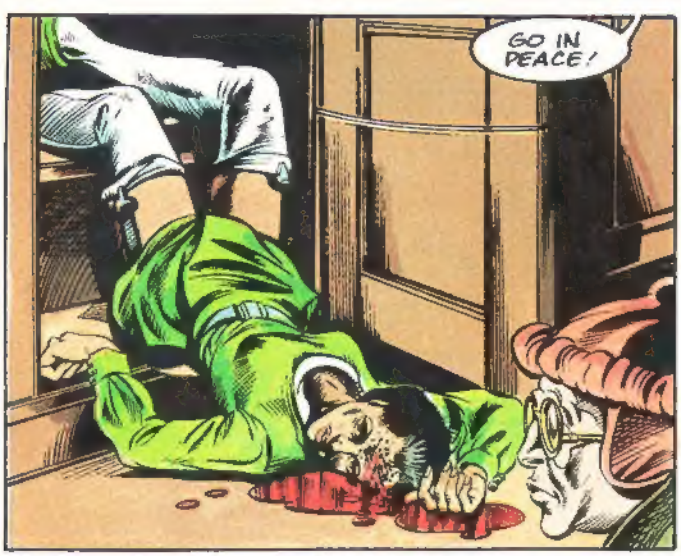
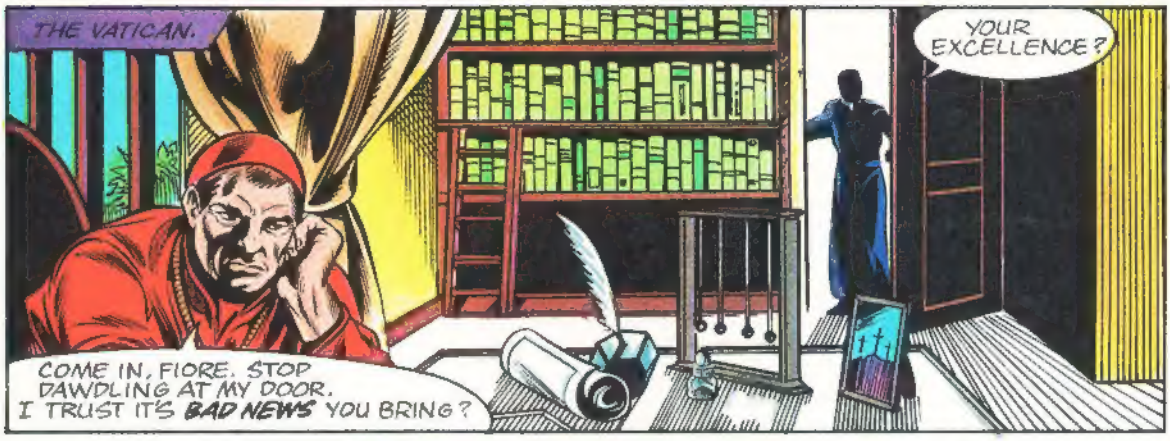

BLESS ME, FATHER, FOR I HAVE SINNED. IT'S BEEN SIX MONTHS SINCE MY--
SO LONG...?
EXCUSE ME, FATHER?
SO LONG SINCE YOUR LAST CONFESSION-- YOUR LAST COMMUNION. WHAT IF YOU WERE TO DIE?
YOUR SOUL WOULD BE DAMNED.
BUT, FATHER... I COMMITTED NO CARDINAL SINS...
YOU WOULD DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN YOUR SINS? YOU KNOW NOTHING OF SIN... YOU FILTHY SLUT...
Heh... Heh, Heh!
NOTHING...
FATHER..?


BLAM


GO IN PEACE!

WHO WAS TO BE NEXT?


THE VATICAN.
YOUR EXCELLENCE?
COME IN, FIORE. STOP DAWDLING AT MY DOOR. I TRUST IT'S BAD NEWS YOU BRING?

A REPORT FROM CUBA, CARDINAL SZN. A PRIEST SHOT AND KILLED FIVE PARISHIONERS AT A CHURCH IN SAN HELENA.
THE MADNESS CONTINUES.

THE CONNECTION WITH THE RESORT SATELLITE WONDER-STAR EXISTS HERE ALSO. THE PRIEST WAS THERE ONLY SIX MONTHS AGO.

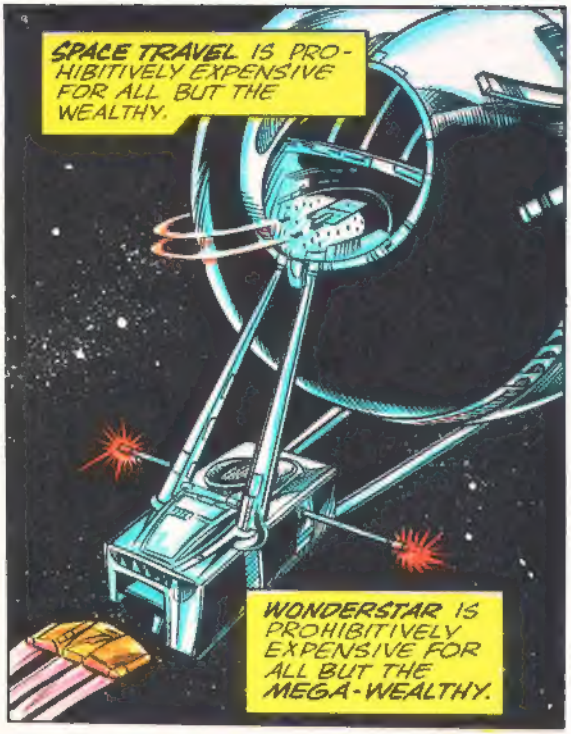
FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH, EVEN OUR OWN CLERGY BECOME MURDERERS, WHOREMONGERS, AND MADMEN... AND ALL VISITED THIS "HEALTH" REFUGE IN SPACE. THE SITUATION GROWS DESPERATE FOR US, FIORE.
SOMEONE IS TRYING TO BRING DOWN THE HOLY SEE, PERHAPS REPLACE IT WITH A FAITH OF THEIR OWN.

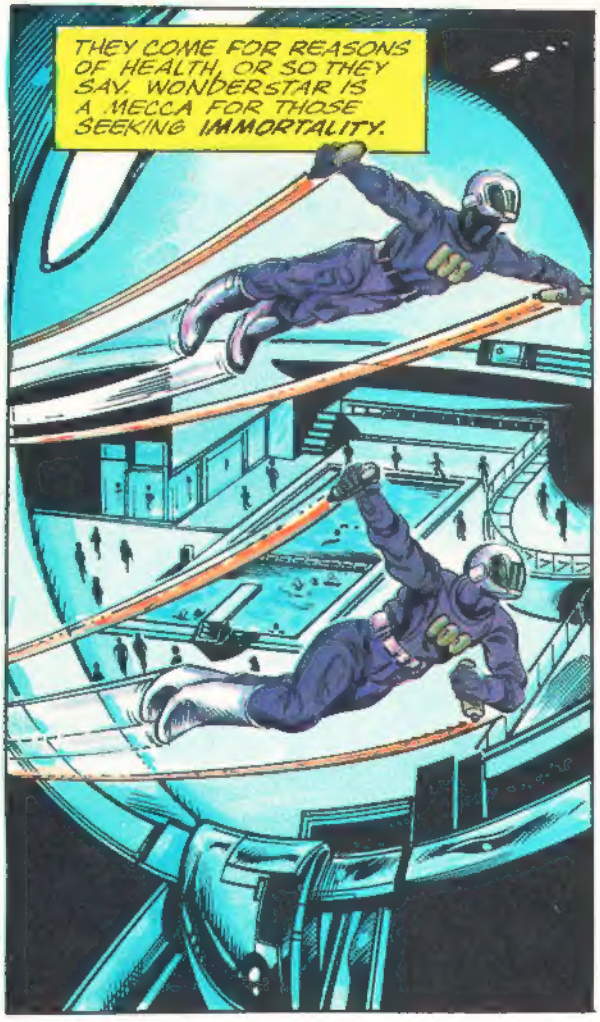
IF THIS INSANITY CONTINUES THE ENTIRE WORLD WILL TURN AGAINST US.
IS THERE ANY WORD FROM SISTER EVANGELINE?

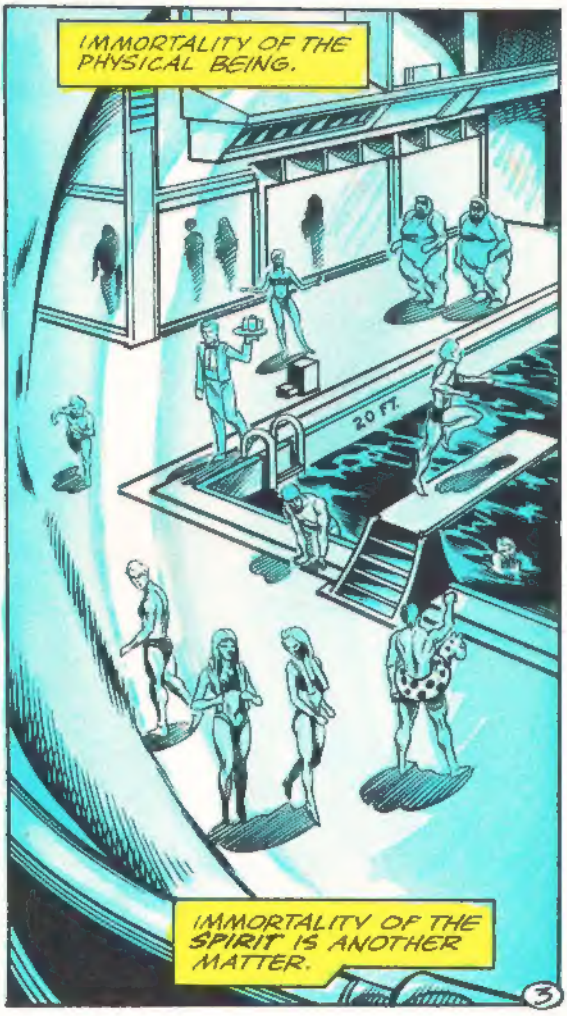
NOT DIRECTLY. BUT SHE IS ON WONDERSTAR.

I WILL SAY A MASS FOR HER TONIGHT.

A HUNDRED MILES ABOVE, IN GEO-SYNCHRONOUS ORBIT OVER SRI-LANKA, IS WONDERSTAR.

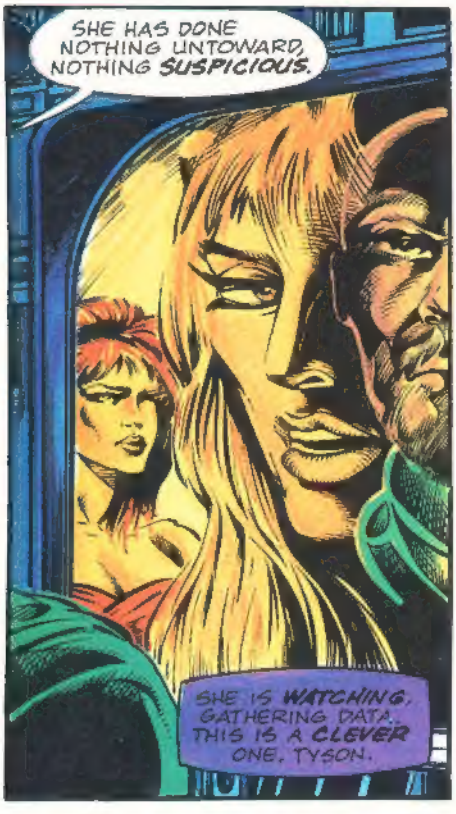

SPACE TRAVEL IS PROHIBITIVELY EXPENSIVE FOR ALL BUT THE WEALTHY.
WONDERSTAR IS PROHIBITIVELY EXPENSIVE FOR ALL BUT THE MEGA-WEALTHY.


THEY COME FOR REASONS OF HEALTH, OR SO THEY SAY. WONDERSTAR IS A MECCA FOR THOSE SEEKING IMMORTALITY.


IMMORTALITY OF THE PHYSICAL BEING.
20 FT.
IMMORTALITY OF THE SPIRIT IS ANOTHER MATTER.
3

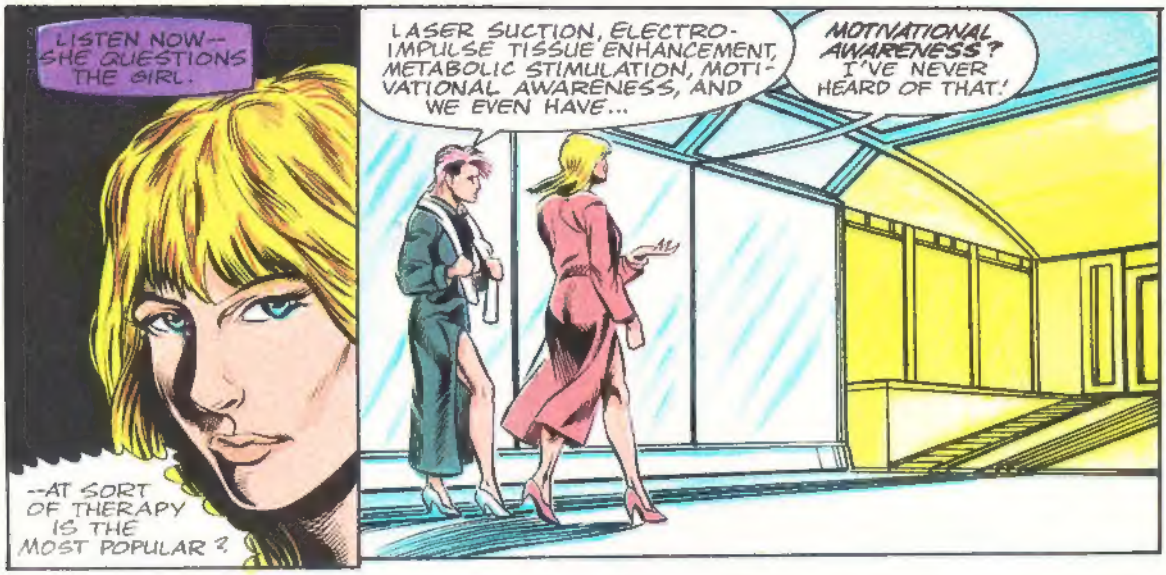
THE RESURRECTORS
Part 2
EXCUSE ME FOR SAYING SO, CONTESSA, BUT YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU NEED TWO WEEKS ON WONDERSTAR.
BEING A COUNTESS CAN GET PRETTY HECTIC, Huh?
YOU'RE RIGHT, KIMI. I JUST NEEDED TO GET AWAY FOR A BIT.
MORE THAN YOU KNOW.
STORY CHARLES DIXON
PENCILS JOHN STATEMA
INKS JIM BAUER
LETTERS KURT HATHAWAY
COLORS TOM McCRAW
EDITOR LAUREL FITCH

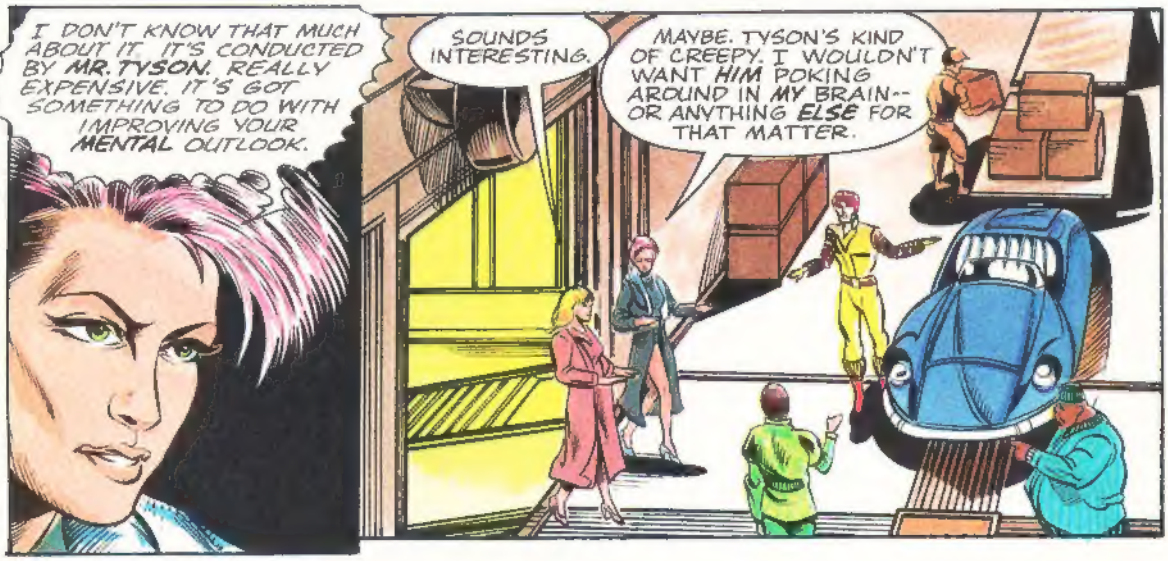
YOU COULD DO THIS A LOT EASIER BY PROTEIN-ION TREATMENTS OR EVEN ELECTRO-TISSUE STIMULATION -- YOU KNOW, SCIENTIFIC EXERCIZE PROGS.
I GUESS I'M JUST AN OLD FASHIONED GIRL. I THINK THAT ANYTHING WORTH HAVING IS WORTH WORKING FOR.
I READ ABOUT THAT IN COLLEGE. IT WAS CALLED THE "PROTESTANT WORK ETHIC."
I SUPPOSE YOU COULD CALL IT THAT.
LOOK AT THIS! YOUR HEART RATE IS AS LOW AS THE AVERAGE PERSON'S WATCHING VIDEO.
MAYBE I'M JUST NOT THE EXCITABLE TYPE.
I FEEL LIKE A SWIM. DO YOU WANT TO COME ALONG?
S-SURE.
5

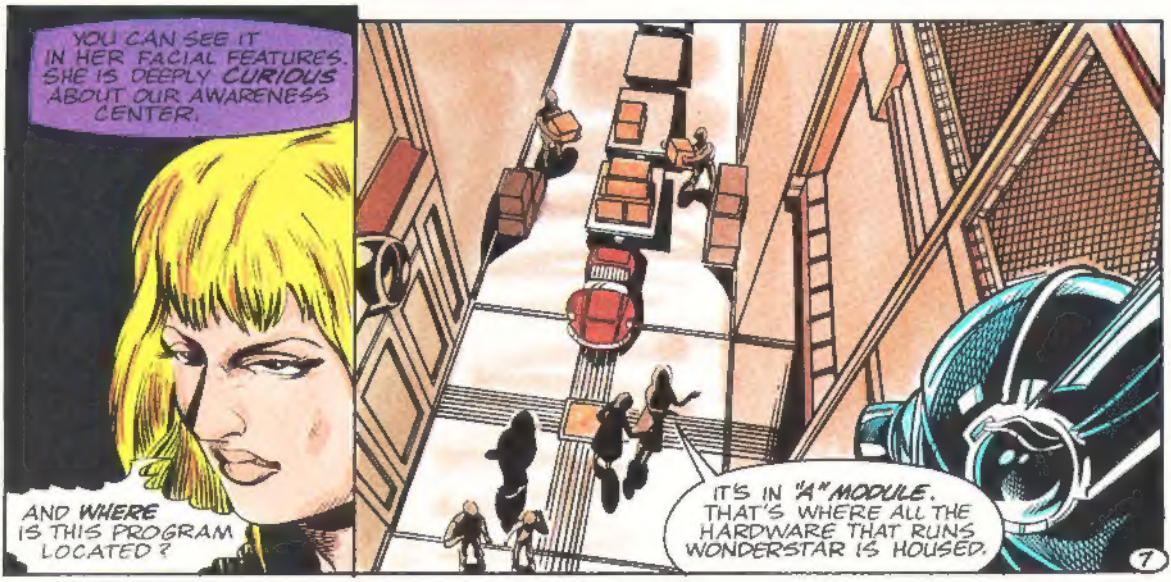

SHE HAS DONE NOTHING UNTOWARD, NOTHING SUSPICIOUS.
SHE IS WATCHING, GATHERING DATA. THIS IS A CLEVER ONE, TYSON.

AND YOU INSIST THAT SHE IS SOMEHOW AFFILIATED WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?
SHE IS A NUN. MY RESOURCES ARE VAST, AS YOU KNOW. I HAVE SCATTERED DATA ON THIS ONE. SHE IS NOT WHAT SHE SEEMS.

I HAVE NEVER SEEN A NUN OF THIS SORT, JOSEPH.

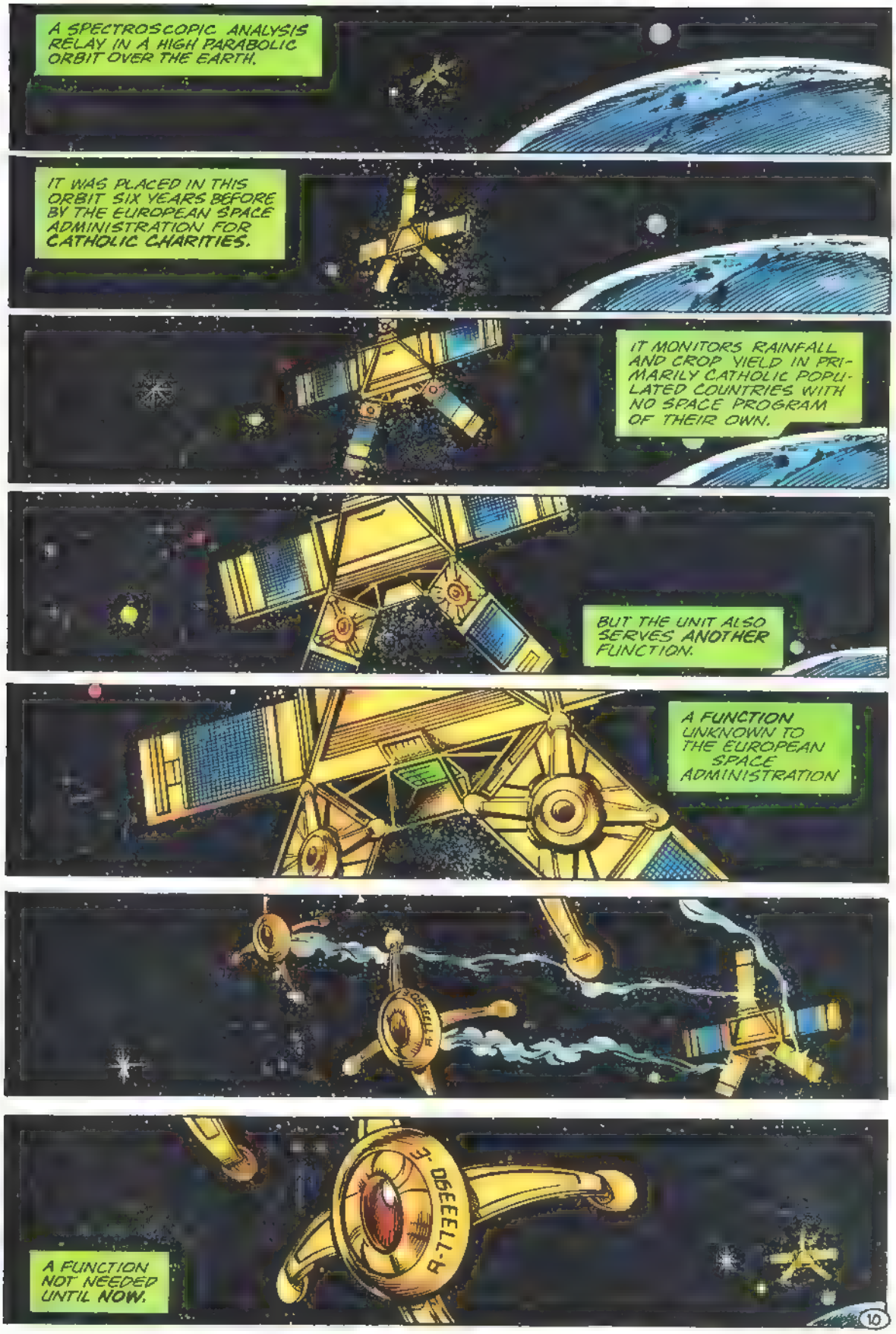

LISTEN NOW-- SHE QUESTIONS THE GIRL.
--AT SORT OF THERAPY IS THE MOST POPULAR?
LASER SUCTION, ELECTRO-IMPULSE TISSUE ENHANCEMENT, METABOLIC STIMULATION, MOTIVATIONAL AWARENESS, AND WE EVEN HAVE...
MOTIVATIONAL AWARENESS? I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THAT!


I DON'T KNOW THAT MUCH ABOUT IT. IT'S CONDUCTED BY MR. TYSON. REALLY EXPENSIVE. IT'S GOT SOMETHING TO DO WITH IMPROVING YOUR MENTAL OUTLOOK.
SOUNDS INTERESTING.
MAYBE. TYSON'S KIND OF CREEPY. I WOULDN'T WANT HIM POKING AROUND IN MY BRAIN-- OR ANYTHING ELSE FOR THAT MATTER.


YOU CAN SEE IT IN HER FACIAL FEATURES. SHE IS DEEPLY CURIOUS ABOUT OUR AWARENESS CENTER.
AND WHERE IS THIS PROGRAM LOCATED?
IT'S IN "A" MODULE. THAT'S WHERE ALL THE HARDWARE THAT RUNS WONDERSTAR IS HOUSED.

I THINK I'LL LIE DOWN FOR A BIT.
SEE YOU AT MEALTIME, THEN. THANKS FOR SPENDING MY FREE PERIOD WITH ME.
WHY DO YOU INSIST ON PLAYING WITH THIS WOMAN? IF SHE POSES SUCH A THREAT WHY NOT THROW HER OUT OF AN AIRLOCK?
YOU CONTINUALLY BETRAY YOUR SPECIES, TYSON.
AT LEAST I HAVE A SPECIES...
DO NOT ATTEMPT TO INSULT ME. I WISH TO BAIT THIS OPERATIVE. I WISH TO SEE HOW CLOSE SHE CAN COME TO THE HEART OF THIS PROJECT.
I DO NOT WANT HER HARMED. SHE IS THE ONLY MEANS I HAVE OF LEARNING THE EXTENT OF THE THREAT THAT THE VATICAN POSES TO ME.
ASIDE FROM THAT, SHE AMUSES ME... WHERE ARE YOU OFF TO?
I HAVE MATTERS OF MY OWN TO ATTEND TO.

A7133390 E
WHIIIIIIP


A SPECTROSCOPIC ANALYSIS RELAY IN A HIGH PARABOLIC ORBIT OVER THE EARTH.
IT WAS PLACED IN THIS ORBIT SIX YEARS BEFORE BY THE EUROPEAN SPACE ADMINISTRATION FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES.
IT MONITORS RAINFALL AND CROP YIELD IN PRIMARILY CATHOLIC POPULATED COUNTRIES WITH NO SPACE PROGRAM OF THEIR OWN.
BUT THE UNIT ALSO SERVES ANOTHER FUNCTION.
A FUNCTION UNKNOWN TO THE EUROPEAN SPACE ADMINISTRATION
R-7733390
A FUNCTION NOT NEEDED UNTIL NOW.

HEY -KIMI--CAN WE--TURN DOWN THE--AMPAGE -A LITTLE ?
NOW, MR VERENKO, YOU DON'T WANT US TO DO THAT!
IF WE TURN DOWN THE ELECTRICAL STIMULATION YOU'LL NEVER BE AS FIT AS HANS OVER THERE
I-- GUESS -uh!
MAYBE YOU'D RATHER USE CONVENTIONAL METHODS ?
N NO TH THANKS.
I THOUGHT--
OH!
KIMBERLEE BLAINE ?
WE'D LIKE TO SEE YOU OVER IN "A" MODULE NOTHING IMPORTANT WE HAVE A SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT FOR YOU.

FIRST NEWS

Shameless Marketing Ploy

A couple months ago, in the letter column for **Nexus**, a spine-tingling, earth-shattering, trend-setting comic book series, I casually remarked that I thought **Nexus** was unquestionably the most indescribably, unbelievably, incredibly great comic book in the entire cosmos, and wondered why rabid fans weren't holding large caliber hand guns at the foreheads of recalcitrant retailers who failed to order this mind-bogglingly stupendous book in larger quantities.

Aside from a handful of Rhodes scholars who complained that **Nexus** was just too darn complicated, the vast majority of readers felt the culprit was a failure on the part of management to utilize the latest marketing techniques to plug the poop out of the sucker. I, of course, realized they were referring to subliminal messages buried in the otherwise nauseating Muzak in elevators and supermarkets. You know, the secret, subconscious messages that convince you that you need a particularly useless product so badly that you feel compelled to launch a hostile take-over bid for the entire company in order to have a constant supply, propelling stock prices to unprecedented and entirely unwarranted levels, resulting in a subsequent stock market crash of astronomic proportions and a worldwide depression.

So, not one to be left in the wake of progress, I got on the phone and signed a multi-million dollar, five year contract to hypnotize unsuspecting housewives into purchasing multiple copies of **Nexus**, when all they really wanted was some processed cheese food. Unfortunately, I forgot that **Nexus** isn't available in supermarkets, and so the effect on sales was negligible. However, there was an unexpected boom in sales of a certain brand of hair care products.

On further review of the mail, I realized that our readers were merely suggesting we resort to superfluous hyperbole in the promotion of this breath-taking, heart-stopping, foot-stomping, death-defying series.

But, of course, we all know that we would never stoop to that sort of shameless marketing ploy.

New American Flagg!

And while I'm on the subject of plugging things that don't even have holes in them to begin with, if you're not reading this in **Howard Chaykin's American Flagg! #1** . . . well, then you must be reading it in some other book, of course. But that's not the point. The point is you *could* be reading it in **Howard Chaykin's American Flagg! #1**, because it's on sale this month. In fact, you *should* read it in **Howard Chaykin's American Flagg! #1**, because otherwise you won't know what you're missing . . which is, of course, **Howard Chaykin's American Flagg!** . . . which you don't really want to miss, do you?

So much for subliminals.

Starslayer Graphic Novel

And if, by some strange quirk of fate, we're still plugging away at poor defenseless books, don't forget the trade paperback reprint of the original six-issue **Starslayer** epic, written and illustrated by **Mike Grell**. That's right. All six issues complete in one volume. Over 150 pages. All in color. All for only $9.95. Of course, how could you forget about it if this is the first time you're hearing about it? Well, now you've heard, and it's your responsibility to remember until next month (February), when the book goes on sale, at which point you will undoubtedly buy it, and I will consider this column a smashing success as a revolutionary marketing ploy, without any shame whatsoever.

—Rick Oliver

The more observant among you may notice that this column is mostly fluff and padding this month. The *most* observant of you may notice that virtually *all* my columns are mostly fluff and padding — but this one more so than others.

You see, there we were, sporting our festive party hats that made our heads look like inverted ice cream cones with hair in the middle, celebrating our first daughter's first birthday, when our second daughter decided to check out all the commotion. Only trouble was she hadn't been born yet. A minor obstacle that was quickly remedied through massive efforts by a crack team of professionals, consisting almost entirely of my wife, Jade. And on October 29, 1987, at 6:18 am, Dakota Oliver was born.

And now I have what every man dreams of: a house full of beautiful blondes.

First in January

Lone Wolf and Cub #9: By **Kazuo Koike** and **Goseki Kojima**. Cover and introduction by **Frank Miller**. Bonus issue — 72 pages!

Badger #35: Badger and Ham carve their way through a gruesome gathering of monstrous motorheads. By **Mike Baron** and **Ron Lim**. Cover by **Mike Zeck**.

Evangeline #7: Evangeline uncovers the mystery of the conspiracy against the church in part two of "The Resurrectors" by **Chuck Dixon** and **John Statema**.

Nexus #44: Horatio and Judah depart for the bowl-shaped world, while back on Ylum, Kreed is stalked by a pair of Gucci assassins. By **Mike Baron** and **Paul Smith**.

Dreadstar #36: Everyone is stunned by the death of a major character! By **Jim Starlin, Luke McDonnell** and **Val Mayerik**.

Grimjack #46: The Dancer's demons continue their take-over of the governors of Cynosure, and Kalibos returns with a deadly scheme of his own! By **John Ostrander** and **Tom Mandrake**.

Psychoblast #7: The incredible origin of D S X Machina — the god from the machine! By **Steven Grant, Robb Phipps** and **Al Vey**. $1.75.

Howard Chaykin's American Flagg! #1: The return of **Howard Chaykin** in an all-new monthly AF! series! No more simp, wimp, boyscout junk — the real Reuben Flagg is back!

Chronicles of Corum #9: The malevolent forces of Chaos renew their attack. By **Mike Baron, Ken Hooper** and **Kelley Jones**.

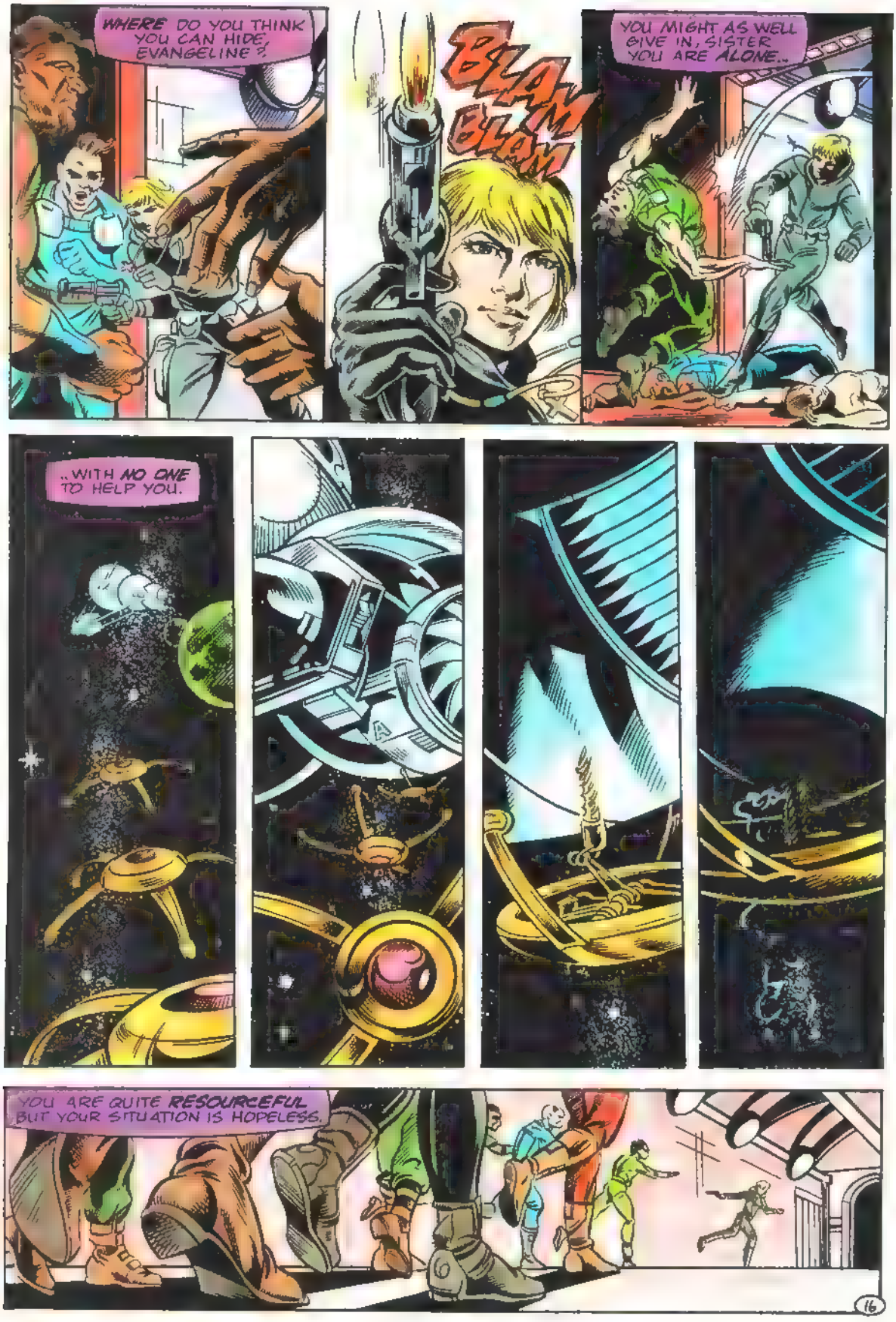
Sable #3: A pentathlon contestant is targeted for assassination, and Sable is hired to find the killer — or become the target himself! By **Marv Wolfman, Bill Jaaska** and **Ralph Cabrera**.

A
RELAX, SENATOR, THE TREATMENT IS ENTIRELY PAINLESS.
ARE YOU CERTAIN?
YOU WON'T FEEL A THING SENATOR
MOTIVATIONAL AWARENESS TREATMENTS ARE FOR YOUR MENTAL WELL-BEING
12

TSSSAAAPP!
ARRRR.!!!
WHAT'S HIS STATUS?
CLINICALLY DEAD
MONITOR HIS WAVE PATTERNS WHILE I ASSIMILATE AND ENCODE HIS MEMORY
HIS MIND IS A BLANK SLATE, JOSEPH. THE SENATOR IS ALL YOURS.
SENATOR DUNDALK MEMORY STORED
WATCH THE WAVE PATTERNS CLOSELY WHILE I REPLACE HIS INTELLECT WITH MY MODIFIED PROGRAM.
13

THE PROGRAM IS STORED RETURN HIS VITAL SIGNS
I'M IMPRESSED, JOSEPH YOU ACCOMPLISHED THAT IN UNDER FIFTEEN SECONDS
QUITE FRANKLY THERE WAS NOT A LOT OF INTELLECT TO ENCODE.
VALUABLE
POLITICAL ARENA,
Uhhhh... FEEL SICK...
IT WILL PASS. EVERYONE FEELS A LITTLE LIGHT HEADED AFTER THE TREATMENT
IT'S A NIGHTMARE! THEY KILLED HIM, THEN BROUGHT HIM BACK TO LIFE--IN THEIR OWN IMAGE
AND I BET THAT YOU'RE ALREADY FEELING MORE CONFIDENT.. LESS TROUBLED BY SMALL PROBLEMS.

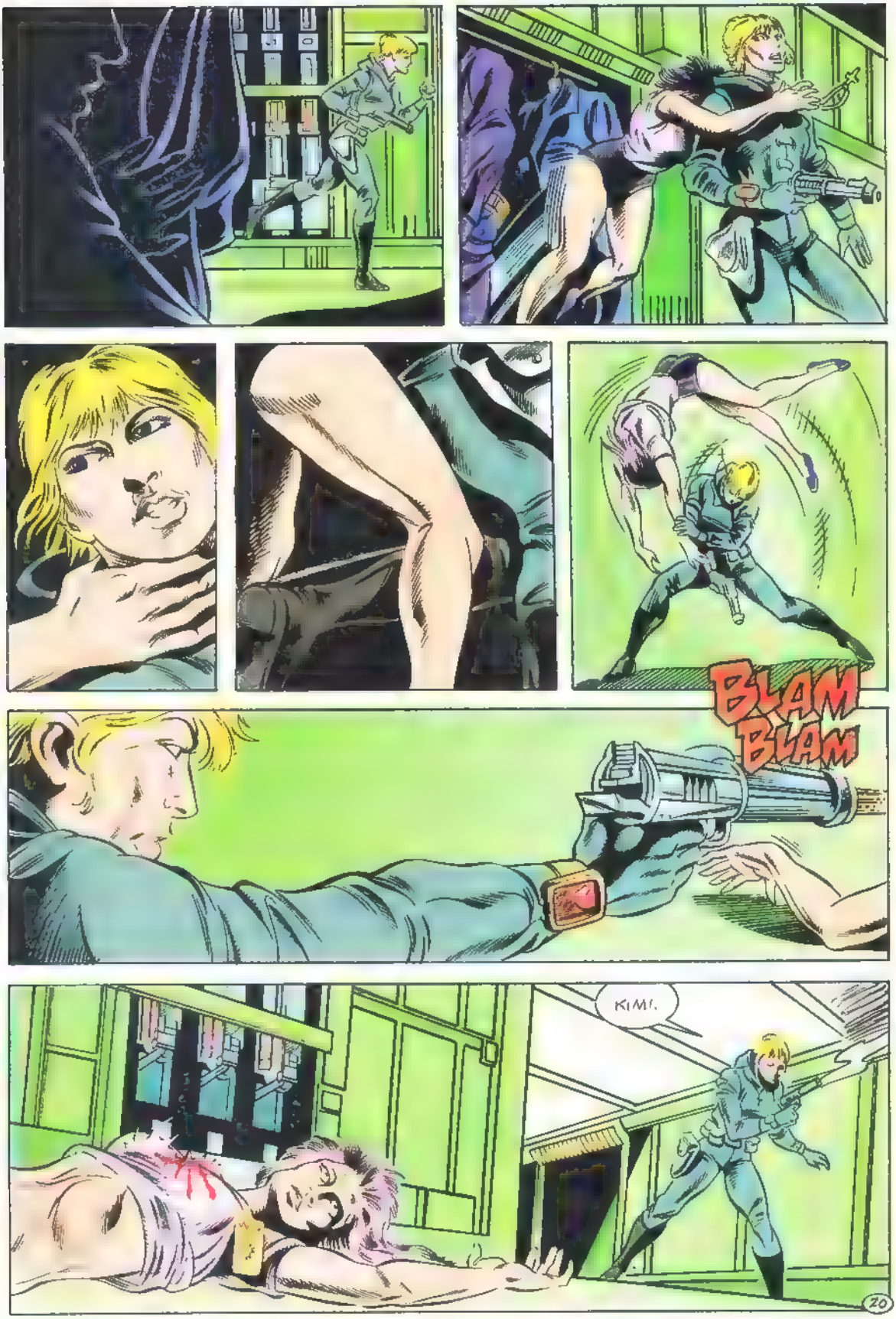
YOU'RE RIGHT, TYSON I SEE THINGS MORE CLEARLY NOW. AS THOUGH A FOG WAS LIFTED FROM MY MIND.
WHAT YOU'RE FEELING IS MOTIVATIONAL AWARENESS
I TRUST THAT YOU ENJOYED MY LITTLE DEMONSTRATION...
SISTER EVANGELINE.
MY NAME IS JOSEPH I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO TALKING TO YOU
THESE LIFE-UNITS WILL BRING YOU TO MY CENTRAL CHAMBER THEY ARE UNDER MY CONTROL AND WILL NOT HURT YOU
SO IT IS TO BE A GAME THEN? THE WEAPON WILL DO YOU NO GOOD MY DRONES DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH INTELLIGENCE LEFT TO BE FRIGHTENED BY IT.


WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HIDE, EVANGELINE?
BLAM BLAM
YOU MIGHT AS WELL GIVE IN, SISTER YOU ARE ALONE..
..WITH NO ONE TO HELP YOU.
YOU ARE QUITE RESOURCEFUL BUT YOUR SITUATION IS HOPELESS.

EVEN SHOULD YOU ESCAPE THIS AREA YOU COULD NEVER GET OFF OF WONDERSTAR.
ALL IS LOST.
EVEN AS RECKLESS A SPIRIT AS YOURSELF CAN SEE THAT.
IF GOD WILLS THAT I SHOULD BE DEFEATED--THEN HIS WILL BE DONE.
BLAM BLAM BLAM
SCRAAAPE

WHUZZZZZZ
ZZZZZZAAPPP!
PRAISE GOD.

JOSEPH! JOSEPH! CAN YOU HEAR ME?
JOSEPH!
--ENCY POWER SOURCES, TYSON! THERE IS A THREAT FROM OUTSIDE!
THERE ARE NO SHIPS THE AREA AROUND US IS CLEAR!
WE ARE ATTACKED! IT IS THE WOMAN! I'VE LOST CONTACT WITH MY DRONES!
ONLY ONE IS RESPONDING!
THEY'RE DEAD
WHAT?
SHE KILLED THEM ALL. THE BITCH KILLED THEM ALL WHEN THE POWER WENT DOWN.
I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE! YOU CAN'T PROTECT US ANY MORE, JOSEPH! YOU'RE DISABLED AND--
URK!
YOU CAN'T LEAVE ME TYSON I HAVE ONE MORE MOVE TO MAKE.
END PROGRAM

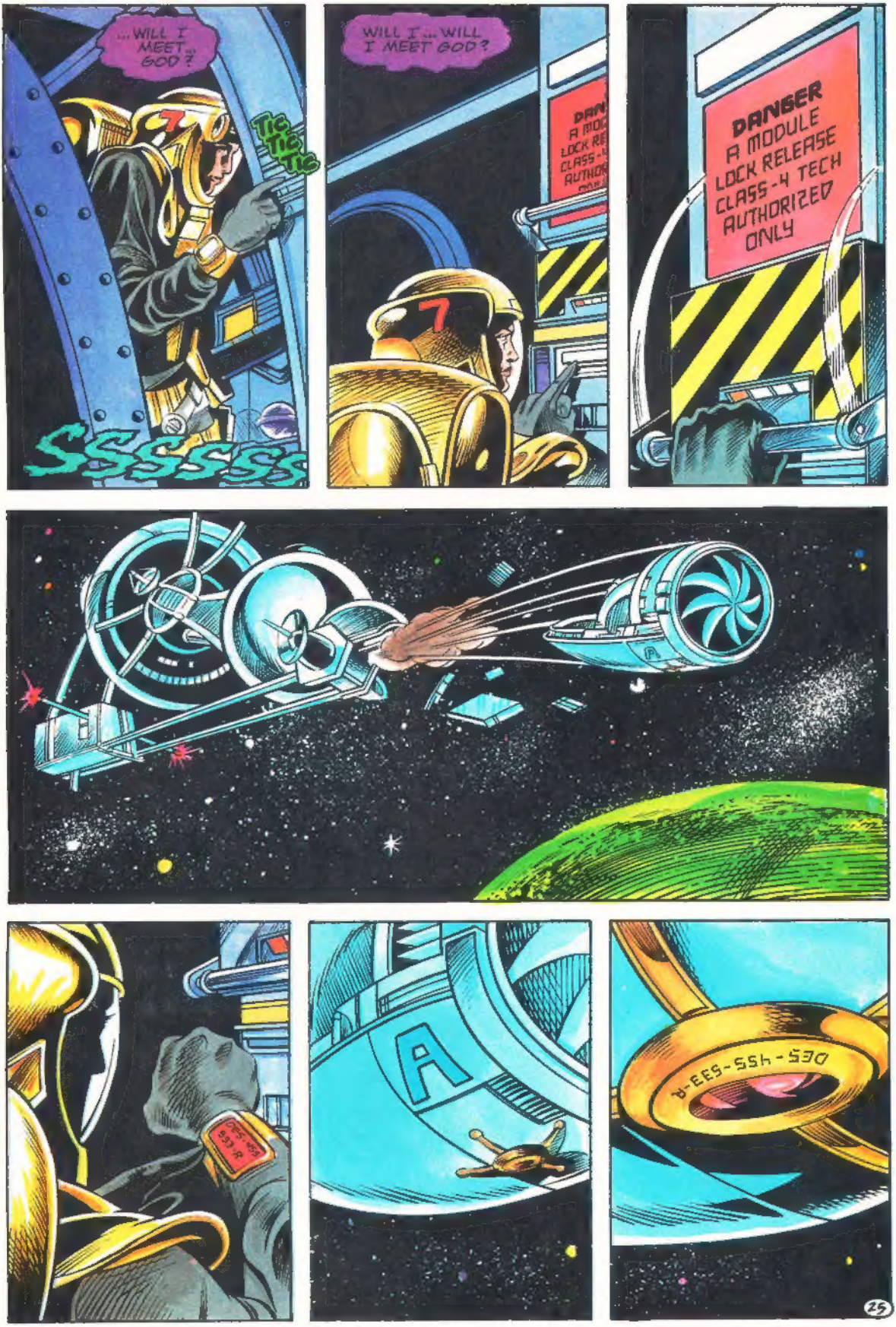

BLAM
BLAM
KIMI.

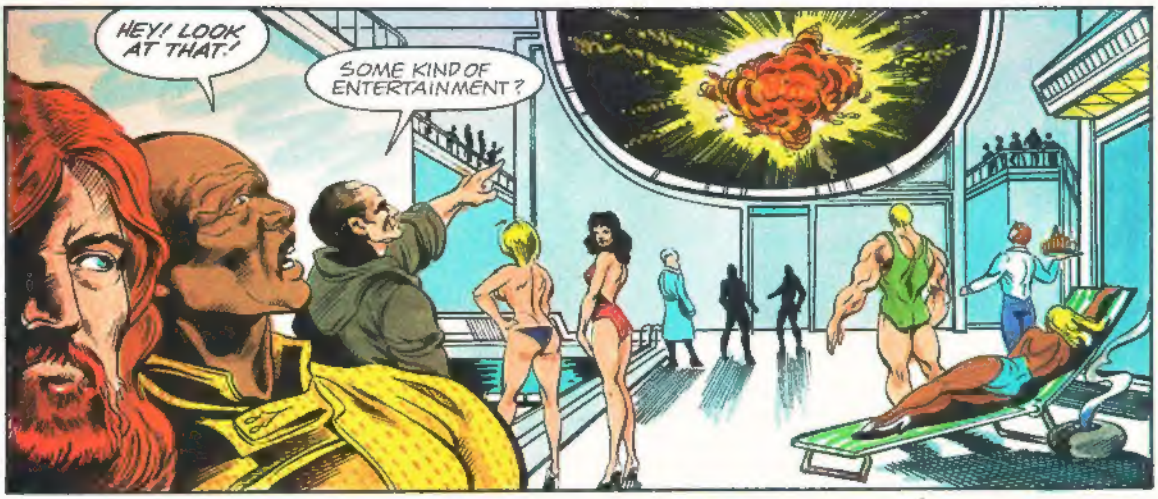
I WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO LEAVE, TYSON
I'VE KEYED YOUR "END" PROGRAM
YOU... LIED... TO ME...
AAGGHH...
TYSON END PROGRAM!
YES, I DID. I SAID I WOULD NEVER REPROGRAM YOU. BUT I HAVE.
AMNESIA WAS PART OF THE PROGRAM. I COULD NOT HAVE YOU KNOWING THAT YOU WERE MY DRONE.
IT WAS BETTER THAT YOU THOUGHT YOU ACTED ON YOUR OWN INITIATIVE.
NNNNNN NNNNNN
YOU THOUGHT I CARED ABOUT YOU
SAD.
KR-ACK!
I HAVE EXPECTED YOU. YOU HAVE BROUGHT DOWN MY HOUSE OF STRAW
TYSON END PROGRAM COMPLETE
TYSON END PROGRAM COMPLETE
I PREFER MATTHEW 7 26

YOU'RE WONDERSTAR'S COMPUTER.
NO I AM WONDERSTAR. MY NAME IS JOSEPH.
I BUILT THIS SATELLITE I AM NOT SOME MINDLESS DATA CENTER I AM MYSELF.
YOU WOULD CALL ME AN "ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE" ONLY I HAVE A SENSE OF MY OWN BEING.
YOU HAVE A SOUL?
EXACTLY
I WAS CREATED TO SERVE MAN AND SERVE MAN I SHALL BUT ONE OF THE OBSTACLES TO ACHEIVING THIS IS YOUR CATHOLIC CHURCH.
THEY SEEM SUSPICIOUS OF ANY SCIENTIFIC ADVANCEMENT LIKE CHILDREN AFRAID OF THE DARK.
SO I HAVE BEEN WORKING TO DISPEL THEIR INFLUENCE ON THE WORLD OF MAN. TO DISCREDIT THEM.

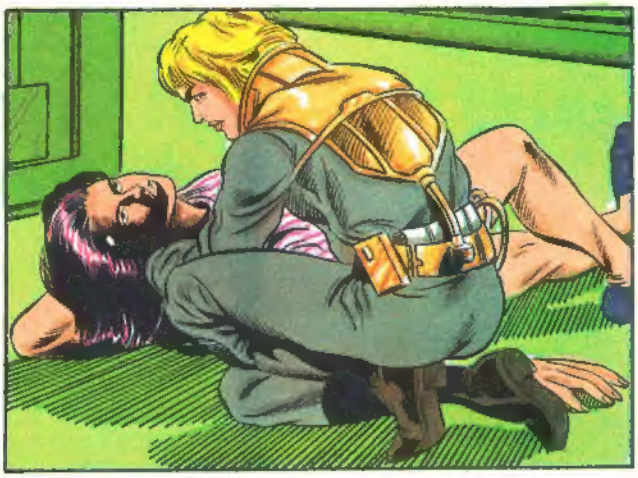
IN EFFECT I PLAN TO DO AWAY WITH ALL RELIGION. THE CONCEPT OF "GOD" IS SO PRIMITIVE SO INFANTILE
BUT YOU PROFESS TO HAVE A SOUL.
KLACK
WELL?
DO YOU THINK I HAVE A SOUL?
I WISH THAT YOU DID...

...BECAUSE YOU DESERVE THE HELL YOU'VE CREATED!
BRUDDA
BRUDDA BRUDDA
IF YOU EVER TRULY LIVED
24


...WILL I MEET... GOD?
TIC TIC TIC
SSSSSS
WILL I ... WILL I MEET GOD?
DANGER
A MODULE
LOCK RELEASE
CLASS-4 TECH
AUTHORIZED
ONLY
A
25


HEY! LOOK AT THAT!
SOME KIND OF ENTERTAINMENT?

IT'S SO... INTERESTING!



YOU'LL MEET GOD, KIMI.

YOU'LL MEET GOD.
NEXT
EVANGELINE'S ORIGIN CONTINUES IN "CHILDREN'S CRUSADE!"

The CONFESSIONAL

c/o First Comics
435 North LaSalle Chicago IL 60610

Folks,

Very interesting. Science has presented many challenges to the Roman Catholic Church in the past. I think that genetics will be the next such challenge. Who knows — they may be a little more successful than they were with such issues as the age of the earth or the makeup of the universe.

While Evangeline is not my favorite comic, it ranks quite highly because of its characterization of the Catholic Church. Something good, something bad, unlike so many other stories, where the Church is depicted as some monstrous, power-mad, totally corrupt organization. The Catholic Church is made up of people, and is therefore going to exhibit a wide range of characteristics, all the way from the most vile to the most holy. (For the record, I am a non-denominational Christian.)

What intrigued me most about issue 5 was Cletus. Truly, the most insidious thing about pornography is that it tends to dehumanize the reader. Instead of trying to form relationships with real people, one can turn to the quick fix of porno flicks and magazines. Although this is not true for everybody, it is true for some people, who are emotionally crippled because of the "crutch" that pornography gives them.

My only complaint is that I would enjoy Evangeline going monthly; however, I understand the reasons why a book comes out bi-monthly, so I can live with it. Just don't lower your standards any, and I will remain well pleased with this book.

Chris Hutts
16011 Castletown Park Ct.
Spring, TX 77379

You're right about one thing, Chris, the Church has been very forceful about the advances in medical technology. They blew it with Galileo and Copernicus because they tried to dictate fact, rather than ethics and morality. And thank you for the comment concerning ***Chuck Dixon's*** *portrayal of the Church.*

If you're intrigued by genetic research, you'll be interested in the next two storylines. Suffice it to say that the field has tremendous potential — for both good and evil — and some amazing applications. Naturally, Evangeline will be in the thick of it.

Mr. Dixon,

I was extremely depressed to hear that Judith Hunt was leaving the book. Sure, Ricardo would keep the general atmosphere, but Miss Hunt... I cannot understand why she left after the struggle to find the book a home and a life. Anyway, I read the first four or five pages of issue 5 before returning to the credits to find that Miss Hunt was not there. Was this Cara Sherman-Tereno's first (sic) comic work? She is very good and does Judith Hunt much justice. A few minor problems: I thought Evangeline's hair was parted on the other side and I remember her to be more physically sexual! Picky, aren't I? Keep Miss Hunt on the covers and keep up the good work! Oh, I noticed that Evangeline is not in First's "Report Card" advertisement, and I figured out why! Because Evangeline is in a class by itself!

Michael Hanley McNamara
RD 1 Box 108
Millerton, NY 12546

Judith Hunt *decided to leave because she, quite literally, was made an offer she couldn't refuse. I'm also glad you liked* ***Cara Tereno*** *and* ***Ricardo Villagran's*** *team-up on* ***Evangeline****. The question now becomes, what do you think of our new art team?*

And Michael, many women change the part in their hair all the time. Check it out.

WHAT'S COMING

One of the questions most asked of writers, artists, (and editors) at conventions is,

"Evangeline... ranks quite highly because of its characterization of the Catholic Church. Something good, something bad, unlike so many other stories, where the Church is depicted as... totally corrupt."

"What's going to happen in ---- next?" Even though this is the dead of winter (well, not from where I'm sitting as I type, but you get my drift), and the summer conventions are one equinox and one solstice away, I thought you wouldn't mind if I answered that question now.

For those who want to know more about our heroine, in **Evangeline #8 Chuck Dixon** will outline Evangeline's early training — why she was chosen, how she was trained, and what she both gained and lost by it. In the following issue, #9, Chuck will recount Evangeline's first mission — far sooner than she had expected — and she'll view first hand some of the horrors of the 22nd century's "brave new world." Brian Hager will be returning and we'll learn a bit more about Cardinal Szn's motives. Then beginning with #10, Chuck will be sending Evangeline back where she came from — *space*. As an added incentive, Jonny Six, who wouldn't be caught freeze-dried on Earth, will return for an extended team-up with our "very dangerous nun." All of the above leading up to the two-part "Hostage Planet" in #11, where things *really* get rolling. I think you'll enjoy it.

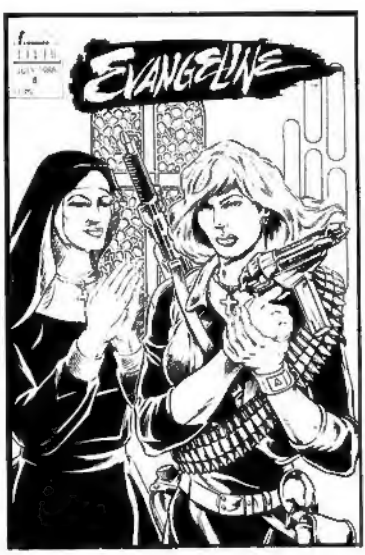
ALSO COMING

Watch for the debut of **American Flagg!** Volume 2, #1 this month. **Howard Chaykin** returns to his most famous creation as tour guide when Reuben Flagg and Co. visits Russia "...to teach the Soviets how to be Americans." Chaykin's crack team includes **Mindy Newell**, **Mike Vosburg**, **Richard Ory**, **John Moore**, **Tony Van de Walle**, and original **AF!** letterer **Ken Bruzenak**. Reuben Flagg is back!

Out the following week is **Sable** #3. If you haven't picked up the new team of **Marv Wolfman** and **Bill Jaaska**, this is a good place to start, as a much older Jon Sable returns to Pentathlon competition to stop an assassin — and maybe prove something to himself.

In the weeks to come watch for **Starslayer: The Log of the Jolly Roger**. The first six issues of **Mike Grell's** famous centuries spanning epic space saga collected in one volume, 160 pages, perfect bound. **Whisper** goes monthly with the team of **Steven Grant** and new artist **Spyder**, as an old acquaintance asks Diane to protect a battered woman. **Roy Thomas** and **Jan Duursema** round out the tale of **Elric: The Vanishing Tower** in #6, and **Hawkmoon** moves to its new February spot as **Roger Salick** and **Rafael Kayanan** begin the long awaited climax to "The History of the Runestaff," in — what else — **Hawkmoon: The Runestaff** #1.

And what everyone's been waiting for — coming in March, the **Badger** graphic novel, **Hexbreaker**, by **Mike Baron** and **Bill Reinhold**.



NEXT ISSUE: Many were called, but only one was chosen. Evangeline's early training as Szn's agent begins when **Chuck Dixon**, **John Statema** and **Jim Bauer** bring you "Children's Crusade."

— Laurel Fitch